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WARTIME WORK OF STATE EXTENSION SERVICES

(Digested From Reports of State Extension Directors)

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Summary No. 17

July 3, 1942

HAWAII (June 20).--Director assisting representative of OPA in adapting price-fixing program in Hawaii. Reports building up adequate supply and reserve of foods and feeds. Current shipments from mainland now brought in on replacement basis rather than for further building up of reserve.

Farm agents have concluded registration of all commercial vegetable and fruit growers, and organized several groups of farmers in collective organizations. Vegetable and Fruit Growers Association formed on island of Hawaii. Egg marketing center established. Under auspices of Extension and Maui Food Administrator's office. 106 farmers in central Maui met and selected representative from each district as committee to work with county agents and Food Administration in stabilizing supply and demand of vegetables produced on island, and to interpret military orders intelligently to the farming public. Reports indicate Victory gardens growing in practically every backyard and giving excellent results. Assistance given in pest control. Other farm problems brought on by war agents have actively helped to meet include purchasing frozen materials such as cement, machinery, etc; planning program of emergency feed in case of shortage; frequent crop estimating and reporting to determine acreage for food production from month to month; fostering program of home-made insecticides and their use; compiling farm-labor survey on Hawaii for Territorial Department of Labor.

Largely through work of home demonstration agents the women of Hawaii are becoming more aware of significance of home defense. Activities have centered around local products. Emergency uses of cocoanuts emphasized; canning and preserving all varieties Hawaiian fruit; demonstrations in cooking rabbit meat. Information given on evacuation food kits, meal planning, home gardening, making home solutions for poison gas attacks. On Maui, home agent at request of OCD planned evacuation-kit display and gathered supplies for the display. Hilo Recreation YWCA Committee in sponsoring summer program for young people of city, asked help in training leaders to supervise program. On Kauai, agents continuing purchase of food for enemy-alien prisoners.

Assistant in Extension held 14 meetings, attended by 786, devoted to Americanization program among Japanese. Also worked with Army Intelligence in selling 10,000 Army Relief tickets; residents of Oahu donated \$218.50 to Red Cross; arranged for 17 blood donors; sold \$2,150 worth of bonds.

Extension horticulturist absent 2 weeks on special mission for Navy. Also served as member Honolulu Victory Garden committee; made inspection of plantation food-production assignments; prepared May seed reserve inventory; gave technical help to individuals and groups on food production and pest control. Animal husbandmen giving further assistance in establishment Hog Slaughtering Authority,

effective July 1, which will effect a more equitable pork distribution. Gathered information on number mature dairy animals and heifers; analyzed average milk production per herd.

Clothing specialist made study of clothing situation in Honolulu. Because of urgent need and desire for information and practical suggestions on foods and nutrition, specialists in home economics are preparing newspaper articles and conducting radio programs headed "Instructions to Homemakers," dealing with food selection and preparation, good buys in the local market, planning adequate and wholesome meals from available products. County agent giving program of volunteer training in foods and nutrition to 8 groups in Hilo, for 7-week period.

IOWA (June 15).---Rapid progress being made toward obtaining objective of acquainting Iowa farm families with program to control cost of living. Committee extension members appointed to prepare materials and lay out plans for campaign. The opening gun was holding of Statewide meeting of 100 representatives 34 organizations at Ames, May 29. Immediately following, district training schools were held for extension agents; and 100 countywide meetings of agricultural leaders. Extension agents holding training schools in each county for the 28,000 men and women serving as educational cooperators, who will carry information back to their neighborhoods in discussion groups. Each cooperator furnished with discussion outline and sufficient copies of printed leaflet "Our Third Enemy - Inflation" to supply his neighbors. Supplementing this, a comprehensive campaign being conducted through press and radio. 4-H Clubs and rural youth groups also assisting.

Final reports on feed-budget phase of livestock program indicate 86 percent of the men educational cooperators or 11,361 out of 13,209 appointed were given instruction and training in use of feed budget and information relative livestock-feeding problems. 65 percent of cooperators reported reaching 49,486 other farmers in meetings and 55,371 by individual contacts. Report does not include contacts made by extension agents and others in meetings not held by cooperators. Cooperators have now been appointed in 98 percent of 13,367 districts in State.

Victory garden reports from 94 counties show 4,992 educational cooperators have reached 34,553 families in meetings, and 40,265 through direct contact: 450 urban cooperators have reached 16,515 urban families. Estimate for State indicate as of April 30 total of 167,626 families reached, with 9,500 cooperators trained. Second phase of campaign dealt with canning and freezing fruits and vegetables, training schools for cooperators held in all counties. Third phase on control insects and diseases, and planting summer gardens for fall vegetables, under way.

4-H Club members assisting in rubber collection. 1,300 club girls and leaders attending State convention in Ames devoted much time to learning ways in which 4-H girls can best serve their country in war effort. Convention theme - "The 4-H Girls Call to Service."



MONTANA (July 1).--Selection rural neighborhood leaders and completion program to facilitate exchange of information between rural people and Extension accomplished in majority counties. Will be functioning all counties by July 10.

Organization to handle prevention and control of rural fires established throughout State. Training schools held and farm leaders selected to man fire-control districts. Closest cooperation maintained with State and Federal agencies. Farmers and stockmen show extreme interest in program.

1943 production estimates written in cooperation BAE. County agents using county material as basis for guiding actual production.

Economic information covering philosophy of inflation-control program to agents. Other material being prepared for similar distribution.

Young men and women being trained in machinery operation in number of counties through machine-company cooperation. Several counties taking inventory of harvest labor needs.

Help on nutrition and food preservation given rural people through leader demonstrators trained by nutrition specialist. Agents working closely with War Boards.

4-H Club camps devoted to first aid, scrap collection, War stamps and bonds, and foundation of the 7-point program. 813,000 pounds scrap iron collected in one week in Fallon and Carter Counties brought total from these counties over  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million pounds.

NEVADA (June 1).--Project to inform farmers of cost-of-living program under way. Statewide news stories issued, specialists working up other informational material; county agents informed of importance of getting information to rural people. Cooperating with State Office of Price Administration.

Surveys of potential labor made in several counties; farmers informed of situation that they may adapt their work to shortage. Attention called to possibility of importing Mexican labor or using Japanese evacuees if housed in State concentration camps. In counties without U. S. Employment offices, county agents acting as volunteer representatives of employment service to get labor for farmers and ranchers.

Nevada neighborhood leadership program swung into action on its first project - sugar rationing; a matter of importance with Nevada farmers and ranchers because of great distances from ranch to town and many ranches run on institutional basis. Four pieces printed matter on rationing and ways to conserve sugar sent to all farm families through neighborhood leaders.

Extension staff members attended Governor's conference to discuss post-war planning. Director chairman of conference committee on agriculture.

All but 2 counties organized for rural fire fighting. Bulletins on fire prevention given rural fire fighters. State rural fire board meeting held; under Extension leadership other agencies now assuming part of responsibility for program. 4-H rural fire-hazard survey continuing.

Nutrition and canteen classes carried on during month. For practice, women served meals at Governor's economic conference and at county civilian defense training meetings. One group set up military canteen at main-line airport.

Farmers urged to provide storage for 1942 wheat crop. News stories issued; farmers furnished plans for approved structures. In connection with this and other farm building, new lumber freezing orders explained.

Land use planning meetings held in several counties for discussion prospective 1943 agricultural production.

In pasture improvement soil conservation and building practices to increase production stressed. Crop rotation, correct use of water, and other factors emphasized. Handbook on pastures in preparation.

Farmers, homemakers, 4-H Club members continue salvage collection. In one county 4-H'ers rounded up nearly 80 tons of scrap iron.

PENNSYLVANIA (July 1).--Special report on dairy extension work gives the following: Emphasis on feeding and management for quick results. Dairy men asked to increase milk production to meet increased domestic food demands and to supply other nations' needs. Over 200 county meetings held. 145,000 copies "Feeding Dairy Cows" distributed; many news stories written.

Meetings held with milk distributors 11 counties for discussion ways and means to conserve gas and rubber and still maintain milk distribution. Meetings attended by 75 percent of distributors concerned.

Effort made to keep the 104 dairy herd-improvement associations operating. Associations serviced by 122 testers, 73 having been trained since January 1. Artificial breeding association and three new bull associations organized, making a total of 99 of the latter now functioning.

4-H dairy-calf club work continues to grow. Total clubs will number over 60 with membership of over 800.

TEXAS (July 1).--Four regional conferences for discussing measures to fight dangers of inflation held with regional representatives OPA explaining at each meeting Government's program for stabilizing living costs. All Extension staff has taken part in at least one of five training schools. In addition, 212 officers, other agencies and organizations, received information on causes and effects of inflation. 60,000 copies of questions and answers pamphlet distributed to Agricultural Victory Leaders; 40,000 copies "Inflation Comes Back to the Farm" to leading farmers, businessmen, representatives Government agencies. State-wide radio talks given and news stories released. Agents report farm people increasingly interested in learning of inflation dangers that they may help to formulate a national policy equitable for all groups.

Latest reports on County Agricultural Victory Councils in 247 counties reveal 10,237 men and women serving as community leaders in the human chain system of communication. Already 407,129 farm families located and assigned to leaders.



County Victory Councils encouraged to select small executive or policy committees to determine material to be transmitted or received over chain. As evidence of how "chain" works, in one east Texas county visited by floods steps were taken to avoid epidemics of typhoid, dysentery, etc., when rural families were notified through chain of necessary precautions. Public-health centers opened to give people serum shots and advice on sanitation problems. Another county, which lost 60,000 acres of oats and 40,000 acres of wheat to green bugs, used its chain to obtain pooled orders for seed oats and seed wheat. Job done in 48 hours.

Farm women given information and assistance, at meetings, etc., on adjustments in home; wise use of time and energy; budgeting and keeping of farm and home accounts; workclothes for women. Home industries specialist held conferences with agents, 23 counties, to encourage cooperative buying of food not produced regionally, and cooperative selling of farm products.

Texas Home Demonstration Association's 12 district meetings attended by 2,500 rural women who reported to each of 2,200 clubs in State. Theme - "A Home Guard for Democracy." Subjects discussed: Community gardens, distribution seeds and plants, food conservation, increased use whole-grain cereals; school-lunch programs.

Home-management specialist appointed member South Central War Planning Committee. Activities deal with family income, and assistance in figuring market for home furnishings and equipment, clothing, housing and food.

450,000 copies of Texas Food Standard distributed by extension and 100,000 more to be printed. Also mimeographed copies of "Better Meals for Less Money" and "Nutrition Handbook."

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